

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 304656

65

ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 OPIC-06 AGR-10 /030 R

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APPROVED BY AF/EPS - ROBERT B. DUNCAN

AF/C - JSBLODGETT

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R 302151Z DEC 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

UNCLAS STATE 304656

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTRA

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF GOODYEAR TIRE AND RUBBER CO.
REPRESENTATIVES

1. J. A. MINTON, MANGER OF PROJECTS, AND J. J. RIEDL, GENERAL MANAGER OF RUBBER DIVISION, GOODYEAR TIRE AND RUBBER CO., PLAN TO VISIT YAOUNDE JANUARY 17-21 TO INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITIES FOR INVESTING IN A RUBBER PLANTATION AND PROCESSING PLANT. THEY ENVISAGE A PLANTATION OF FROM 30,000 TO 50,000 ACRES AND WILL BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN AVAILABILITY OF LAND, POSSIBILITY OF LONG-TERM CONCESSIONS AT REASONABLE LEASE RATES, AND AVAILABILITY OF LOCAL PARTNERS FOR A POSSIBLE JOINT VENTURE.

2. GOODYEAR OFFICIALS WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING FOR THE VISIT. THEY UNDERSTAND THAT FIRM APPOINTMENTS CANNOT BE MADE SO FAR IN ADVANCE BUT THEY WOULD LIKE TO AVOID MAKING TRIP IF KEY OFFICIALS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR DISCUSSION. THEY WOULD PARTICULARLY LIKE BRIEFING BY AMBASSADOR AND ECONOMIC OFFICER EARLY IN VISIT AND WOULD LIKE TO MAKE COURTESY CALLS ON MINISTERS OF FINANCE, AGRICULTURE, AND ECONOMY AND PLANNING. THEY WOULD ALSO LIKE TO MEET WITH OTHER KEY OFFICIALS IN THOSE
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MINISTRIES. IN PARTICULAR, IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED THAT

THEY MEET WITH ROBERT NAAH AND A MR. MOULON IN MINISTRY ECONOMY.

3. WE WOULD APPREICATE ANY ASSISTANCE EMBASSY COULD PROVIDE GOODYEAR OFFICIALS IN DETERMINING WHETHER KEY OFFICIALS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR DISCUSSIONS AND ANY OTHER ADVICE WHICH MIGHT BE HELPFUL TO GOODYEAR IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED VENTURE. PLEASE REPORT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER THAT WE MAY INFORM GOODYEAR.

4. EXACT ITINERARY OF GOODYEAR OFFICIALS IS AS FOLLOWS:

JAN. 17 AR YAOUNDE 10:00 P.M. VIA UY 756

JAN. 21 LV YAOUNDE 8:45 P.M. VIA UY 743

ROBINSON

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